

Section 620 - Snow, Ice, Dirt and Rubbish Removal From  
Sidewalks, Repair of Sidewalks

Section 620:00. Definitions.

Subd. 1. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the words, combinations of words, terms, and phrases, as used in Section 620:00 et seq. shall have the meanings set forth in the subdivisions of this section which follow.

Subd. 2. "Current service" means one or more of the following: snow, ice, or rubbish removal from sidewalks; weed elimination from street, grass plots adjacent to sidewalks or from private property; repair of sidewalks.

Section 620:05. Snow, Ice, Dirt, and Rubbish Removal.

Subd. 1. All snow, ice, dirt, and rubbish remaining on a public sidewalk more than 12 hours after its deposit thereon is a public nuisance. The owner and the occupant of any property adjacent to a public sidewalk shall use due diligence to keep such walk safe for pedestrians. No such owner or occupant shall allow snow, ice, dirt or rubbish to remain on the walk longer than 12 hours after its deposit thereon.

Subd. 2. The street commissioner may remove from all public sidewalks all snow, ice, dirt, and rubbish as soon as possible beginning 12 hours after any such matter has been deposited thereon or after the snow has ceased to fall. He shall keep a record showing the cost of such removal adjacent to each separate lot and parcel and shall deliver such information to the Clerk.

Section 620:10. Weed Elimination.

Subd. 1. Any weeds, or grasses, whether noxious as defined by law or not, growing upon any lot or parcel of land outside the traveled portion of any street or alley within the corporate limits of this municipality to a greater height than eight (8) inches or which have gone or are about to go to seed are a nuisance. The owner and the occupant shall abate or prevent such nuisance on such property and on land outside the traveled portion of the street or alley abutting on such property.

Subd. 2. When the owner and occupant permit a weed nuisance to exist in violation of this ordinance, the Weed Inspector shall serve notice upon the owner of the property if he resides in this municipality and can be found, or upon the occupant in other cases, by registered mail or by personal service, ordering such owner or occupant to have such weeds cut and removed within 5 days after receipt of the notice and also stating that in case of noncompliance such work will be done by the municipality at the expense of the owner and that if unpaid, the charge for such work will be made a special assessment against the property concerned. When no owner, occupant or agent of the owner or occupant can be found, the provision for notice shall not apply.

Subd. 3. If the owner or occupant fails to comply with the notice within 5 days after its receipt, or if no owner, occupant, or agent of the owner or occupant can be found, the street commissioner, or his duly authorized agents or employees shall cut and remove such weeds or grasses. The street commissioner shall keep a record showing the cost of such work attributable to each separate lot and parcel and shall deliver such information to the Clerk.

Section 620:15. Repair of Sidewalks.

Subd. 1. The owner of any property within the corporate limits of this municipality abutting a public sidewalk shall keep the sidewalk in repair and safe for pedestrians. Repairs shall be made in accordance with standard specifications approved by the Council and on file in the office of the Clerk.

Subd. 2. The street commissioner shall make such inspections as are necessary to determine that public sidewalks are kept in repair and safe for pedestrians. If he finds that any sidewalk abutting on private property is unsafe and in need of repairs, he shall cause a notice to be served, by registered mail or by personal service, upon the record owner of the property and the occupant, if the owner does not reside within the corporate limits of this municipality or cannot be found therein, ordering such owner to have the sidewalk repaired and made safe within 30 days and stating that if the owner fails to do so, the municipality will do so, that the expense thereof must be paid by the owner, and that if unpaid it will be made a special assessment against the property concerned.

Subd. 3. If the sidewalk is not repaired within 30 days after receipt of the notice, the street commissioner shall report the facts to the Council and the Council shall by resolution order the street commissioner, his agents or employees, to repair the sidewalk and make it safe for pedestrians or order the work done by contract in accordance with law. The street commissioner shall keep a record of the total cost of the repair attributable to each lot or parcel of property and report such information to the Clerk.

Section 620:20. Personal Liability. The owner of property on which or adjacent to which a current service has been performed shall be personally liable for the cost of such service. As soon as the service has been completed and the cost determined, the Clerk shall prepare a bill and mail it to the owner and thereupon the amount shall be immediately due and payable at the office of the Clerk.

Section 620:25. Assessment. On or before September 1st of each year, the Clerk shall list the total unpaid charges for each type of current service against each separate lot or parcel to which they are attributable under this ordinance. The Council may then spread the charges against property benefited as a special assessment under Minnesota Statutes, Section 429.101 and other pertinent statutes for certification to the County Auditor and collection the following year along with current taxes.